(iv) Main electro-mechanical automatic exchanges	-	5

[Translation]

Production and Export of Makhana and Raharia Beans

6945. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA:
SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Makhana and Baharia beans are grown in northern Bihar; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to promote the production and export of these crops?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMCHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Makhana and Raharia beans are grown in North Bihar, mainly in the districts of Madhubani, Darbhanga, Samastipur, Purnia and Katihar. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has implemented an ad-hoc scheme on collection and evaluation fo gorgannut (Makhana) in Bihar and West Bengal and is being implemented at Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa, Bihar at a total cost of Rs. 1.03 lakh for a period of 3 years. The State Government is also providing technical know-how for production of Raharia beans and Makhana cultivation. Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) organised a display of Makhana in the International Spring Fair at Dubai during 1990 for popularising the export of Makhana.

[English]

Functioning of Cooperative Societies in Delhi

6946. SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Comptroller and Auditor General of India in his Report No. 3 of 1991 has pointed out irregularities in functioning of cooperative societies in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The details of the paras indicated by the Comptroller and Auditor General and action taken by the Delhi Administration is at the Statement attached.